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SUB: OBSERVERS FOR VIETNAMESE ELECTIONS

REF: SAIGON 1600

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR AND EMBOFFS DISCUSSED QUESTION OF

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PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVERS FOR VIETNAMESE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
WITH DIRECTORATE SEC GEN PHAM XUAN CHIEU AND DIRECTORATE
DIRECTEUR DE CABINET DO DANG CONG EVENING JULY 21. BOTH
CHIEU AND CONG ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT PARLIAMENTARY
OBSERVERS SHOULD BE INVITED. CONG WAS A MEMBER OF VIETNAMESE
PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO RECENT SEOUL MEETING OF
APU. HE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO GET IN TOUCH WITH APU
OFFICIALS ON THIS MATTER.

2. JULY 24 EMBOFF AGAIN RAISED SUBJECT WITH CHIEU AND CONG.
CONG SAID THAT HE WILL TAKE UP THE MATTER WITH ASSEMBLY

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CHAIRMAN PHAN KHAC SUU JULY 25 OR 26 AND SUGGEST THAT ASSEMBLY JOIN DIRECTORATE IN ISSUING INVITATION TO APU TO SEND OBSERVERS. HE PROMISED TO KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF PROGRESS.

3. IN MEETING WITH GVN LEADERS JULY 25 AMBASSADOR REFERRED TO USEFULNESS OF INVITING OBSERVER FOR ELECTIONS AND REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO FONMIN DO'S INVITATION TO U THANT

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AND INTEREST OF US CONGRESSIONAL GROUP IN OBSERVING ELECTIONS. GENERAL THIEU RENEWED HIS INVITATION TO CONGRESSIONAL GROUP TO COME FOR THIS PURPOSE.

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